IN MEMORIAM WILLIAM H. LETCHER

At the recent reunion of "Old Settlers of Saof William Hamilton Letcher, in which the the memorial coucluded with the following eloquent tribute, written by an intimate friend whose knowledge of the honored dead's character was the fruit of long companionship Comment is unnecessary; the closing sentences are published verbatim:

'As Old Settlers it is our peculiar privilege and duty to pay honor to the memory of this ing seventy miles an hour, and at one o'clock, noble man, who came in and went out before us for almost fifty years, Whatever is good, and strong, and well founded in our social and political fabric, he helped to build it. He was a man of elevated ideas, of remarkable natural gifts, and of unusual attainments; a student in books, a student of men and of nature. He was not satisfied to know anything partly; his investigation of a subject had to be thorough and exhaustive. Every branch of knowledge at and this is the lowest ever recorded on the midtracted him, and, when the mood was on him, dle Atlantic coast. - Scientific American. talking to friends, he gave astonishing evidences of the extent and accuracy of his knowledge. He would talk of the planets or analyse a flower with equal familiarity and acquaintance with his subject. In his atterance of it, the English language was not a mere vehicle for the peddling of sounds. He was master of his mother-tongue; every sentence was clear, compact and expressive; every word appropriate, and not one superfluous. With his own hands he tended his trees, his plants and flowers, and watched their habits and growth with affectionate care. They were his companions, and responded to his touch.

Like all truly great men-for he was a great man-he was modest and retiring. He loved and sought the company of young men, desiring to instill into them high ideals of life. He was a lover of peace, but when his Scotch Irish blood was aroused he was a man to beware of. He cared little for money, and although a fortune at the practice of the law, was always at his command, he died a poor man. In his prime he was not without ambition, but he was too proud to stoop to the methods of the mere politician. It was something his fault that he permitted men, his inferiors, to pass him on the road to eminence. "Things in motion sooner catch the eye than what not stirs."

He was one of the founders of this Society. and no one took more pleasure to meet and talk with Old Settlers than did he. His fund of anecdotes and reminiscences concerning the old times, was abundant and delightfulwas royal and affectionate to these old friends, and would spend more time and talent defending the rights of one of them, free of charge, than for an indifferent client with a great fee.

Let us cherish his memory. Let us, who knew him, accord him that honor he deserved. His life and his deeds in bygone days have con ferred honors and benefits on us.

VELOCITY OF THE WIND.

The great burricane which wrought such destruction to Porto Rico has furnished remarkable records of velocity. Recent advices from the Weather Bureau station at Hatteras contain

some very startling figures, and prove that if we are to register the highest possible velocities of the wind, our automatic apparatus will have line County," after quite a lengthy biography to be strengthened accordingly. The greatest velocity occurred shortly after noon, the 17th events of his life were reviewed by his own son, of August, when records were made which prove this hurricane to have been the most severe within the past seventy-five years.

> It seems on the morning of August 16, easterly gales were experienced at Hatteras in which the velocity of the wind ranged from thirty-six to fifty miles an hour. At four o'clock of the morning of the 17th the wind was blowp. m it was ninety-three miles an hour, with extreme velocities of from 120 to 150 miles an hour. At this time the anemometer cups were blown away; but the report states that the wind these lands or looks out for them. Cattle-men probably reached an even greater force from 3 p. m. to 7 p. m. of that day. The highest velocity previously reported at that station was air pressure reached 28 62 inches at eight p.m.,

ON EVIL DAYS.

"Ah!" said the genius. "these are evil days for men of intellect. Not only are all the national tendencies gross and materialistic, but the very things which we come in contact with in our daily lives are not such as can be used with poetic effect by our biographers. ever we go to the haunts of the mighty dead we are shown little vine clad cottages in which they lived, strange old carriages in which they rode, and large old-fashioned beds in which they dreamed their dreams. Their favorite shaded walks are pointed out to us, and the trees beneath which they liked to sit-

"But how will it be a hundred years from now when any one tries to beat up the haunts of a genius of the present day? He will have to go to some fifth story flat instead of to a vine-clad cottage. He will be shown the trolley line that the great man patronized, the folding-bed that he slept in, and perhaps the spot where he was fatally injured in an intered genius nowadays." -- Harper's Bazar.

COLLEGES CONSOLIDATE.

The recent decision of the Missouri Conference of the M. E. church South, to consolidate the two Fayette schools, Howard Payne and Central College, is indicative of what Western sentiment is accomplishing in opening all sectari an schools to both young men and women-Though taken in this instance as a means of saving considerable revenue, which could be approprinted more advantageously than though the employment of two facult'es, the step must have been in some measure, influenced by the success many schools of the west have enjoyed, whose cardinal principle has been the total elimination of sexual differences so far as col-lege work is concerned, and the practical and high grade work accomplished by these insti-

Carnegie has become so anti-American in his iews, that he occently found at deny that he was seeking a seat in the English Parliament.

A FACTOR IN MEAT MARKET.

A large share of the responsibility for the current rise in the price of meat is laid to the defective system which governs the use of the public grazing lands in the West. These lands, vast tracts of them in the States beyond the Mississippi, are at present only fit for grazing. They constitute from 75 to 95 per cent of the total acreage of Arixona, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho and Nevada, nearly 60 per cent of California, and a great part of many other States They cannot well be taken up in quarter-sections by settlers, because 160 acres of such land will not support a man. Small holdings are not worth buying, and the government no longer sells great tracts. No one owns and sheep men contend for the use of them, the lands are over-grazed, and in many places land that formerly was good grazing-land is now eighty miles an hour; this was April, 1889. The desert. Texas owns its own public lands and looks after them, but in the other States such lands are the property of the Federal government. It is to the abuse and waste of these public lands that the inadequacy of our present meat-supply is said to be partly due. times have greatly increased the demand for meat, and are no doubt the immediate cause of the rise, but back of that is this deeper and more serious cause. The most practicable remedy suggested is the leasing of these public lands for comparatively short periods and in moderate sized tracts, so that it will be to the interest of some one to maintain their product-

If this waste of grazing-lands is so much to blame for the higher prices of meat, the situation will not be relieved by the establishment of new slaughter-houses to compete with the meat trust. If the evil is really as widespread and serious as is represented it is in a way now to be remedied, for whatever concerns the price of meat will be remembered even in Congress .-E S. Martin.

Shifting Democracy.

The Columbia Herald, one of the few demoference with a cable car or a horseless carriage, cratic papers, whose attitude upon expansion Truly is is hardly worth while to be a celebrat- has not changed, last week reprinted the following extracts from two democratic platforms, the one a year ago and the other, that of the recent congressional district platform. The Herald evidently takes such pride in being one of the molders of party opinion that no hesitation is shown in noting by comparisons the vacillating policy of the party to which it adheres.

PULTON PLATFORM. SPRINGPIELD PLATFORM.

We are unreservedly And since the prosecuopposed to the militarismtion of the war has ensaid imperialism of Presistalled great loss to us of
dent McKinley. We both life and treasure,
want no campire. We be we demand that Portolieve "that all men are Rico and all Spanish tercreated equal: that they citory in the West Indies
are endowed by their except Cuba, shall be
Creator with certain in-sched, or be taken by
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mong these are life, life held under the sovereigncerts and poccuit of hap-ty of this country,
phase. We adhere to
the electrical that all just
government derives its
authority from the con-

Cornestus Vanderbilt, who died Tuesday, recently gave his home church \$60,000.